

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method for preparing an extract of *Centella asiatica* ~~comprising~~ containing a mixture of madecassoside, ~~of~~ terminoloside and ~~of~~ asiaticoside, ~~characterized in that it comprises the following steps~~ comprising the steps of:

a) ~~extraction of~~ creating an extract by exposing the parts of *Centella asiatica* that are above ground ~~by means of~~ to an alcoholic solvent to obtain an alcoholic solution;

b) ~~passage of~~ passing the alcoholic solution obtained in step a), over an anionic resin to obtain an aqueous-alcoholic eluate;

c) selectively defatting the aqueous-alcoholic eluate obtained in step b) by liquid/liquid extraction to obtain a defatted aqueous-alcoholic phase ~~of the eluate obtained in step b);~~

d) ~~concentration of~~ concentrating the defatted aqueous-alcoholic phase obtained in step c) using successive filtration to obtain an aqueous phase ~~with successive filtrations;~~

e) ~~successive passage~~ passing of the aqueous phase obtained in step d), over a cationic resin and then over an anionic resin;

f) ~~stabilization of~~ stabilizing the aqueous phase obtained in step e) by ~~addition of~~ adding alcohol ~~and obtaining of~~ to obtain a mixture comprising madecassoside, terminoloside and asiaticoside.

2. (currently amended) A method for preparing an extract of *Centella asiatica* comprising a mixture ~~of~~ containing madecassoside and ~~of~~ terminoloside, ~~characterized in that it comprises the following steps~~ comprising the steps of:

a) ~~extraction of~~creating an extract by exposing the parts of Centella asiatica that are above ground by ~~means of~~to an alcoholic solvent to obtain an alcoholic solution;

b) ~~passage of~~passing the alcoholic solution obtained in step a), over an anionic resin to obtain an aqueous-alcoholic eluate;

c) selectively defatting by ~~the~~ aqueous-alcoholic eluate obtained in step b) by liquid/liquid extraction of the eluate obtained in step b) to obtain a defatted aqueous-alcoholic phase;

d) ~~concentration~~ concentrating of the defatted aqueous-alcoholic phase obtained in step c) using successive filtration to obtain an aqueous phase ~~with successive filtrations~~;

e) ~~successive passage of~~passing the aqueous phase obtained in step d), over a cationic resin and then over an anionic resin;

f) ~~stabilization of~~stabilizing the aqueous phase obtained in step e) by ~~addition~~ adding of alcohol to obtain a prepurified aqueous-alcoholic phase;

g) ~~selective chromatography of~~separating the prepurified aqueous-alcoholic phase obtained in step f) using a chromatographic column having a stationary phase and a mobile phase; and

h) ~~recovery of~~ obtaining a the mixture ~~of comprising~~ madecassoside and ~~of~~ terminoloside in its final form.

3. (currently amended) The ~~extraction method as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that~~wherein the anionic resin used in step b) is an strong anionic resin with having a

~~quaternary ammonium functional groups of the quaternary ammonium type.~~

4. (currently amended) The ~~extraction method~~ as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 or 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the cationic resin used in step e) is a strong cationic resin having a sulfonate with functional groups ~~of the sulfonate type.~~

5. (currently amended) The ~~extraction method~~ as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 or 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the anionic resin used in step e) is an strong anionic resin ~~with~~ having a quaternary ammonium functional groups of the quaternary ammonium type.

6. (currently amended) The ~~extraction method~~ as claimed in ~~any one of claims 2 to 5~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the mobile phase of the chromatographic column in step g) is a solvent comprising the solvent used during the selective chromatography of step g) is a mixture of water and ethanol, wherein the volume ratio of — in water/ethanol proportions ranging from — ranges from 50/50 to 90/10 volume by volume.

7. (currently amended) The ~~extraction method~~ as claimed in ~~any one of — of claims 2 to 6~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the stationary phase used during the selective chromatography of the chromatographic column in step g) is an apolar stationary phase, in particular a stationary phase consisting of comprising grafted apolar silicas, the apolar grafts having 2 to 18 carbon atoms.

8. (currently amended) The ~~extraction method~~ as claimed in ~~any one of — of claims 2 to 7~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the

~~mixture of madecassoside and of terminoloside is obtained~~
withhas a combined weight % a purity greater than 95 wt% of
madecassoside and terminoloside relative to the total weight of
the extract.

9. (currently amended) An extract of *Centella asiatica* having more than 95 wt% of a mixture comprising madecassoside and terminoloside relative to the total weight of the extract prepared by a process comprising the steps of:~~that can be obtained by means of the method as claimed in any one of claims 2 to 8 and that comprises more than 95 wt% of a mixture of madecassoside and of terminoloside~~

a) creating an extract by exposing the parts of *Centella asiatica* that are above ground to an alcoholic solvent to obtain an alcoholic solution;

b) passing the alcoholic solution obtained in step a), over an anionic resin resin to obtain an aqueous-alcoholic eluate;

c) selectively defatting the aqueous-alcoholic eluate obtained in step b) by liquid/liquid extraction to obtain a defatted aqueous-alcoholic phase;

d) concentrating the defatted aqueous-alcoholic phase obtained in step c) using successive filtration to obtain an aqueous phase;

e) passing the aqueous phase obtained in step d), over a cationic resin and then over an anionic resin;

f) stabilizing the aqueous phase obtained in step e) by adding alcohol to obtain a prepurified aqueous-alcoholic phase;

g) separating the prepurified aqueous-alcoholic phase obtained in step f) using a chromatographic column having a stationary phase and a mobile phase;
and

h) obtaining a mixture comprising more than 95 wt% of madecassoside and terminoloside relative to the total weight of the extract.

10. (currently amended) The extract of *Centella asiatica* ~~as claimed in~~ claim 9, characterized in ~~wherein that the mixture has a madecassoside:whole ratio of~~ weight ratio of madecassoside to maderassoside and terminoloside in the mixture is between 30 wt% and 70 wt%, advantageously of between 40 and 60 wt%.

11. (currently amended) ~~The extraction method as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 8, characterized in that it also comprises~~ further comprising the step of: in parallel, a step consisting of standardization of ~~standardizing~~ the mixture obtained in step f), by the addition ~~adding~~ of an appropriate amount of an ~~the~~ extract as claimed in ~~claim 9 or 10 such so that the final extract thus obtained has a purity of between 90 wt% and 98 wt% of madecassoside, terminoloside and asiaticoside, relative to the total weight of the final extract.~~

12. (currently amended) A standardized extract of *Centella asiatica* that comprises at least 75 wt% of a mixture of madecassoside, terminoloside and asiaticoside relative to the total weight of the final extract ~~that can be prepared by a process comprising the steps of: obtained by means of the method as claimed in claim 11 and that comprises at least 75 wt%, advantageously at least 85 wt%, relative to the whole, of a mixture of madecassoside, of terminoloside and of asiaticoside.~~

a) creating an extract by exposing the parts of *Centella asiatica* that are above ground to an alcoholic solvent to obtain an alcoholic solution;

b) passing the alcoholic solution obtained in

step a), over an anionic resin to obtain an aqueous-alcoholic eluate;

c) selectively defatting the aqueous-alcoholic eluate obtained in step b) by liquid/liquid extraction to obtain a defatted aqueous-alcoholic phase;

d) concentrating the defatted aqueous-alcoholic phase obtained in step c) using successive filtration to obtain an aqueous phase;

e) passing the aqueous phase obtained in step d), over a cationic resin and then over an anionic resin;

f) stabilizing the aqueous phase obtained in step e) by adding alcohol to obtain a mixture comprising madecassoside, terminoloside and asiaticoside; and

g) standardizing the mixture obtained in step f), by adding an appropriate amount of the extract of claim 9 so that the final extract obtained has at least 75 wt% of a mixture of madecassoside, terminoloside and asiaticoside relative to the total weight of the final extract.

13. (currently amended) The standardized extract as ~~elaimed inof~~ claim 12, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the mass ratio of asiaticoside+to madecassoside +and terminoloside~~ratio by mass is between 5:95 and 25:75.~~

14. (currently amended) The standardized extract as ~~elaimed inof~~ claim ~~12 or 13~~, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the mass ratio of madecassoside+to terminoloside ratio by mass is between 30:70 and 70:30, advantageously between 40:60 and 60:40.

15. (currently amended) A drug comprising an extract of *Centella asiatica* ~~asof~~elaimed in claim 9, ~~or 10~~ and a pharmaceutically acceptable support.

16. (currently amended) ~~The drug as claimed in claim 15, intended for~~ A method of regulating inflammatory mechanisms comprising administering the drug of claim 15 to a patient in need thereof.

17. (currently amended) ~~The drug as claimed in claim 15 or 16, intended for the treatment of~~ A method of treating autoimmune diseases, chronic inflammatory diseases, an atopic inflammatory diseases and/or bowel diseases comprising administering the drug of claim 15 to a patient in need thereof.

18. (currently amended) ~~The drug as claimed in any one of claims 15 to 17, intended for the treatment of~~ A method of treating psoriasis, vitiligo, pityriasis, scleroderma, bullous dermatoses, eczema, atopic dermatitis, allergy and/or rheumatoid arthritis comprising administering the drug of claim 15 to a patient in need thereof.

19. (currently amended) ~~The drug as claimed in any one of claims 15 to 18, intended for the prevention and treatment of~~ A method of treating drifting toward chronic inflammation associated with aging and its consequences comprising administering the drug of claim 15 to a patient in need thereof.

20. (currently amended) ~~The drug as claimed in claim 19, intended for the prevention and treatment of~~ A method of preventing and/or treating diseases chosen from anaphylactic sensitizations, pigmentary anomalies of the skin, dermal hypervascularization and/or inflammatory fissuring comprising administering the drug of claim 15 to a patient in need thereof.

21. (currently amended) ~~The drug as claimed in claim 19, intended for~~ A method of regulating dermal tissue homeostasis comprising administering the drug of claim 15 to a patient in need thereof.

22. (currently amended) A cosmetic composition comprising an extract of Centella asiatica ~~as claimed in any one of claims 12 to 14~~ and a cosmetically acceptable support.

23. (currently amended) A method of ~~The cosmetic use of the composition as claimed in claim 22, for preventing any pathological drift toward autoimmunity that may result from aging of the skin, for delaying natural aging of the skin, for preventing accelerated aging of skin subjected to outside attacks, or in particular for preventing photo-induced aging of the skin,~~ comprising administering the cosmetic composition of claim 22 to a human in need thereof.

24. (new) The extract of Centella asiatica of claim 10, wherein the weight ratio of madecassoside to madecassoside and terminoloside in the mixture is between 40 wt% and 60 wt%.

25. (new) The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of: standardizing the prepurified aqueous-alcoholic phase obtained in step f), by adding an appropriate amount of the extract of claim 9 so that the final extract obtained has between 90 wt% and 98 wt% of madecassoside and terminoloside relative to the total weight of the final extract.

26. (new) A standardized extract of Centella asiatica that comprises at least 75 wt% of a mixture of madecassoside and terminoloside relative to the total weight of the final extract prepared by a process comprising the steps of:

a) creating an extract by exposing the parts of *Centella asiatica* that are above ground to an alcoholic solvent to obtain an alcoholic solution;

b) passing the alcoholic solution obtained in step a), over an anionic resin resin to obtain an aqueous-alcoholic eluate;

c) selectively defatting the aqueous-alcoholic eluate obtained in step b) by liquid/liquid extraction to obtain a defatted aqueous-alcoholic phase;

d) concentrating the defatted aqueous-alcoholic phase obtained in step c) using successive filtration to obtain an aqueous phase;

e) passing the aqueous phase obtained in step d), over a cationic resin and then over an anionic resin;

f) stabilizing the aqueous phase obtained in step e) by adding alcohol to obtain a prepurified aqueous-alcoholic phase;

g) standardizing the mixture obtained in step f), by adding an appropriate amount of the extract of claim 9;

h) separating the prepurified aqueous-alcoholic phase obtained in step g) using a chromatographic column having a stationary phase and a mobile phase; and

i) obtaining at least 75 wt % of a mixture of madecassoside and terminoloside.

27. (new) A standardized extract of *Centella asiatica* that comprises at least 85 wt% of a mixture of madecassoside, terminoloside and asiaticoside relative to the total weight of the final extract prepared by a process comprising the steps of:

a) creating an extract by exposing the parts of *Centella asiatica* that are above ground to an

alcoholic solvent to obtain an alcoholic solution;

b) passing the alcoholic solution obtained in step a), over an anionic resin to obtain an aqueous-alcoholic eluate;

c) selectively defatting the aqueous-alcoholic eluate obtained in step b) by liquid/liquid extraction to obtain a defatted aqueous-alcoholic phase;

d) concentrating the defatted aqueous-alcoholic phase obtained in step c) using successive filtration to obtain an aqueous phase;

e) passing the aqueous phase obtained in step d), over a cationic resin and then over an anionic resin;

f) stabilizing the aqueous phase obtained in step e) by adding alcohol to obtain a mixture comprising madecassoside, terminoloside and asiaticoside; and

g) standardizing the mixture obtained in step f), by adding an appropriate amount of the extract of claim 9 so that the final extract obtained has at least 85 wt% of a mixture of madecassoside, terminoloside and asiaticoside relative to the total weight of the final extract.

28. (new) A standardized extract of *Centella asiatica* that comprises at least 85 wt% of a mixture of madecassoside and terminoloside relative to the total weight of the final extract prepared by a process comprising the steps of:

a) creating an extract by exposing the parts of *Centella asiatica* that are above ground to an alcoholic solvent to obtain an alcoholic solution;

b) passing the alcoholic solution obtained in step a), over an anionic resin resin to obtain an aqueous-alcoholic eluate;

c) selectively defatting the aqueous-alcoholic

eluate obtained in step b) by liquid/liquid extraction to obtain a defatted aqueous-alcoholic phase;

d) concentrating the defatted aqueous-alcoholic phase obtained in step c) using successive filtration to obtain an aqueous phase;

e) passing the aqueous phase obtained in step d), over a cationic resin and then over an anionic resin;

f) stabilizing the aqueous phase obtained in step e) by adding alcohol to obtain a prepurified aqueous-alcoholic phase;

g) standardizing the mixture obtained in step f), by adding an appropriate amount of the extract of claim 9;

h) separating the prepurified aqueous-alcoholic phase obtained in step g) using a chromatographic column having a stationary phase and a mobile phase; and

i) obtaining at least 85 wt % of a mixture of madecassoside and terminoloside.

29. (new) The standardized extract of claim 14, wherein the mass ratio of madecassoside to terminoloside is between 40:60 and 60:40.

30. (new) An extract of *Centella asiatica* having more than 95 wt% of a mixture comprising madecassoside and terminoloside relative to the total weight of the extract.

31. (new) A standardized extract of *Centella asiatica* that comprises 75 wt% of a mixture of madecassoside, terminoloside and asiaticoside relative to the total weight of the final extract.

32. (new) A standardized extract of *Centella asiatica* that comprises 85 wt% of a mixture of madecassoside, terminoloside and asiaticoside relative to the total weight of the final extract.

33. (new) A drug comprising the extract of *Centella asiatica* of claim 30 and a pharmaceutically acceptable support.

34. (new) A method of regulating inflammatory mechanism comprising administering the drug of claim 33 to a patient in need thereof.

35. (new) A method of treating autoimmune disease, chronic inflammatory disease, atopic inflammatory disease and/or bowel diseases comprising administering the drug of claim 33 to a patient in need thereof.

36. (new) A method of treating psoriasis, vitiligo, pityriasis, scleroderma, bullous dermatoses, eczema, atopic dermatitis, allergy and/or rheumatoid arthritis comprising administering the drug of claim 33 to a patient in need thereof.

37. (new) A method of treating chronic inflammation associated with aging comprising administering the drug of claim 33 to a patient in need thereof.

38. (new) A method of preventing and/or treating anaphylactic sensitization, pigmentary anomaly of the skin, dermal hypervascularization and/or inflammatory fissuring comprising administering the drug of claim 33 to a patient in need thereof.

39. (new) A method of regulating dermal tissue

homeostasis comprising administering the drug of claim 33 to a patient in need thereof.

40. (new) A cosmetic composition comprising the extract of *Centella asiatica* of claim 30 and a cosmetically acceptable support.

41. (new) A method of preventing aging of the skin, delaying natural aging of the skin, preventing accelerated aging of skin, or preventing photo-induced aging of the skin comprising administering the cosmetic composition of claim 40 to a human in need thereof.